

the Ohio Speech and Hearing Association. In 1955, she was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame, the first State senator to be granted this honor. In 1997, Senator Drake received the Ohio State Bar Association's Distinguished Service Award. Most recently, she has been awarded an honorary doctorate in public administration by Cleveland State University and an honorary masters degree in anesthesiology from Case Western Reserve University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in recognizing the dedication and distinguished law-making career of Senator Grace L. Drake. The General Assembly, as well as the people of Ohio, are losing a unique legislator who understood the value of public service. Let us commend her on 17 years as an Ohio State Senator.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLOOMING GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize one of the churches in my district. This year Blooming Grove Missionary Baptist Church of McLeansboro, IL celebrates its 150th anniversary. I thought it appropriate to acknowledge the church's rich and colorful past along with the congregation's contribution to society.

After a long petitioning process, Blooming Grove was accepted for membership at the tenth annual meeting of the Franklin United Baptist Association in Johnson City, IL. Today, 150 years later, the church is still going strong. Led by Pastor Bro. Gary Davenport for the past 14 years, Blooming Grove has a regular attendance of 75 dedicated citizens. Throughout the years the church has contributed to local and national charities. In fact, as early as 1907 church records state that Blooming Grove gave \$7.33 to China to help in their suffering. The congregation may have changed in size for the past 150 years, but through it all there has always been a strong church body willing to do all they can to keep the congregation together.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I commend the Blooming Grove Missionary Baptist Church. Due to the perseverance and dedication of the congregation, it is clear that the church is an asset to the community.

HONORING DR. LOU PULLANO,
BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the achievements of my constituent and friend, Dr. Lou Pullano, Ed.D., of Long Branch, N.J. Lou is retiring from Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, N.J., after 28 years of outstanding service as a professor and administrator.

Lou has made many remarkable contributions to the local and educational communities of Monmouth County over the course of his career. Perhaps his most outstanding achievement and lasting contribution is the creation of the Brookdale College Radio Station, WBJB 90.5 FM. This small station has grown in listenership and is now recognized as a leading model for school-sponsored stations. In fact, I understand it is now broadcasting with National Public Radio.

Lou's career at Brookdale has been varied and far-reaching, thereby accounting for the tremendous love and respect in which he is held by thousands of students, current and former. For many years, he was a faculty member and professor of Communications Media and became director of Arts Communications, which included the departments of Music, Arts, Graphics, Theater and Speech.

In addition, he was more recently named Brookdale Director of Telecommunication Technologies, which includes radio and cable television broadcasts, and in charge of the Performing Arts Center at Brookdale. Now, upon his retirement, he is also in charge of Distance Education Programs.

Lou is among those who have made Brookdale Community College the educational gem that it is among community colleges in New Jersey and across the country.

I know I speak for all the students past and present at Brookdale, as well as the community of Long Branch and the County of Monmouth, when I wish Lou well in his retirement and thank him for his many years of outstanding and dedicated service.

TRIBUTE TO GRACE MCCARTHY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life and contributions of Grace McCarthy, who passed away just a few days ago at the age of 92.

One of Pacifica, California's most passionate and influential citizens, Grace McCarthy added value and beauty to almost every aspect of civic life in Pacifica and in San Mateo County. Her countless contributions were not made simply from her strong sense of public duty, but from the affection and loyalty she had for the city and citizens of Pacifica.

Mr. Speaker, the phrases "ecologically sound" and "environmental protection" were not as popular thirty years ago as they are today, but Grace did a great deal to give them meaning in Pacifica. Never bending simply because some opinion leaders may have disagreed with her, Grace was a maverick whose steadfast views and boundless energy were key to protecting Pacifica's natural splendor beginning in the 1970's.

Nothing demonstrates this more than Grace McCarthy's appointment to the first Coastal Conservation Commission for Pacifica and to the California State Coastal Commission. During her tenure, Grace fought unpopular battles and was often at odds with fellow commission members, but her views always earned respect because of her unquestioning devotion

to protecting and preserving the coast in and around Pacifica. The Pacifica Tribune commented, "As a member of the Central Coastal Conservation Commission, she catches it from both sides. Free enterprise businessmen and property owners figure she's aligned with those who would 'close' the coast. The environmentalists accuse her of being aligned with the free enterprise business and property owners . . . Fortunately, Mrs. McCarthy is a practical, tough not easily intimidated or discouraged public servant who's doing a hard job well."

Mr. Speaker, Grace's inherent respect for natural beauty existed before she came to reside permanently in Pacifica with her husband and children. Grace and her husband, Carl, met at Yosemite National Park, where, fortuitously, Carl paid a chance visit and Grace was attending a nature convention. Grace and Carl's mutual love for nature augmented Grace's devotion to Pacifica's coast and its evergreens.

Decades before environmental issues were in vogue, Grace McCarthy devotedly and doggedly fought for wilderness parks, open space, riding and hiking trails, and the dedication of parks in new subdivisions. Although she was a fierce, determined and indomitable conservationist, in her public activities and in her private life, she was the epitome of her name—Grace.

Mr. Speaker, all of us who honor Grace McCarthy will look to Pacifica's treetops and coastline and know that much of what we cherish there is ours to enjoy because of Grace's energy, foresight, fierce determination and firm conviction. We will miss her in the fights that lie ahead, but her spirit will continue to inspire and guide our actions.

IN HONOR OF THE NORTH
OLMSTED MUNICIPAL BUS LINE
(NOMBL)

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I honor Ohio's oldest municipally owned bus system, the North Olmsted Municipal Bus Line (NOMBL), which is celebrating 70 years of service to the community of North Olmsted and surrounding suburbs.

NOMBL, located in North Olmsted, serves over one million customers annually, having come a long way since the line's first red and white-painted bus made its first official trip to Cleveland at 5:15 a.m. on March 1, 1931; the first day's revenue was \$24.65.

NOMBL was founded after Southwestern Railway decided to discontinue trolley services for the region. Mayor Charles Seltzer, Clerk Elroy Christman, Solicitor Guy Wheeler and resident John Schindler borrowed money to lease two used buses and drove them to Columbus, Ohio to get the vehicle licenses necessary to operate a bus line. With consistent and continued dedication to service and commitment to excellence, NOMBL buses became a landmark in Cuyahoga County.

Today, the active 40-coach fleet operates seven different routes under a contract with the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA). Operating under this agreement